

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Bob and Linda Bracken of Port Washington for their 35 years of teaching in New York's Third Congressional District. I had the privilege of meeting them today and showing them around this very Chamber.

Mr. Bob Bracken is chock-full of knowledge, and he taught history courses for Port Washington public schools. His delightful wife, Mrs. Bracken, taught business courses in Great Neck South.

Unspoken heroes like Mr. and Mrs. Bracken paved the way for future generations, and I would like to place their names and legacy in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I thank Mr. and Mrs. Bracken from the bottom of my heart and on behalf of New York's Third Congressional District for all of their invaluable service to our community.

CELEBRATING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, when I entered the House of Representatives, I was 1 of just 24 women serving in Congress. Today, there are 154 women in Congress, out of 540 Members of the House and Senate. What progress our country has made in recognizing and embracing the equal role of women in all aspects of our society.

This Women's History Month, we have the opportunity to celebrate the success and sacrifices of those who have committed themselves to uplifting women, families, and our society.

Meanwhile, let's also rededicate ourselves to continuing to fight for the advancement and security of our mothers, wives, sisters, grandmothers, godmothers, and daughters.

It is more imperative than ever for us to carry forward the legacy of those who came before us and to do our part to pave the way for future generations. Let us embrace a world where there is no limit to what women can be and what we can achieve together.

HONORING TEACHER OF THE YEAR THERESA MAUGHAN

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise Theresa Maughan.

The East Orange Educator is New Jersey's 2022 State Teacher of the Year. She teaches 10th grade social studies at East Orange STEM Academy, and she is an inspiration to everyone in my district.

Ms. Maughan was born in Belize and immigrated to America when she was in elementary school. In her childhood, she was inspired to teach by her own social studies teacher. She has worked in education for 40 years.

Ms. Maughan tells her students that she tries to learn something new every day, and her commitment to my district's teachers and students has helped her win numerous awards, such as the 2021 Essex County Teacher of the Year.

Congratulations, again, to New Jersey's 2022 Teacher of the Year, Theresa Maughan. She is a great example of how teachers benefit our lives and communities every day.

ENSHRINE WOMEN'S RIGHTS INTO LAW

(Ms. STEVENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise because it is Women's History Month.

I rise because I returned from Michigan on the heels of a Women's History Month event that I held yesterday in Farmington Hills, where I looked the women of my district in the face and promised them that I would return to the House of Representatives to seek to enshrine their rights into law.

Mr. Speaker, I rise because in the second year of this pandemic, maternal mortality increased by 40 percent, and in the following year, the Supreme Court repealed Roe v. Wade.

I rise because four women in Texas are suing for their right to bodily autonomy. Women are standing up and saying that they do not want to be subject to sepsis while trying to give birth to a child.

I rise because, in South Carolina, women will be prosecuted to a deeper extent than a rapist.

Mr. Speaker, I rise because I will not stop until we have enshrined women's rights into the law of this land.

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NASHVILLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SHOOTING

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, a nightmare, a day of horror, and one that prayers and sympathy cannot quash the deep and piercing pain that the parents of these babies in an elementary school, a Christian school in Nashville, had to experience this morning at 10 a.m., and the loved ones of the adults that suffered an untimely death. How long is this Congress going to diddle-daddle around?

How long are we going to be divided over the reality that a 28-year-old who went to the school had two AR-15s and a handgun?

Oh, there is always the talk about the Second Amendment. I honor the Second Amendment, but I do not honor the violence of an assault weapon.

How many more babies can we lose?

How many more stories like Uvalde can we tolerate?

How many more parents, whose children's lives are just going to be snatched from them, are going to walk around like zombies?

It is time now to ban the assault weapons. Ban them now. It is time to address mental health issues in a larger way. It is time for this Congress to come together. It is time to stop the nightmare and to stop the horror.

How many more parents have to cry over dead babies? Ban assault weapons and do it now.

COMMEMORATING BLACK WOMEN AND THE ERA

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MCCORMICK). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to coanchor this CBC Special Order alongside the Honorable CORI BUSH of Missouri, founder of the first Congressional Caucus for the Equal Rights Amendment.

For the next 60 minutes, members of the CBC have an opportunity to speak directly to the American people on finally getting the equal rights across the finish line and recognized as the 28th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, 100 years after it was first introduced in the House of Representatives, an issue of great importance to the Congressional Black Caucus, Congress, the constituents we represent, and all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor the incredible efforts of African-American women who have advocated for the equal rights amendment, ERA, throughout history. Their resilience, passion, and determination have driven the relentless pursuit of gender equality and justice for all.

In the 1970s, prominent Black women like Pauli Murray, Shirley Chisholm, Flo Kennedy, and Barbara Jordan were instrumental in advancing the cause of women's rights and the ERA.

When the 28th amendment is finally recognized as part of the United States Constitution, Black women deserve to have significant credit for its passage. Their legacy reminds us of the power of unity, conviction, and perseverance in the face of adversity. Let us not forget the profound words of feminist lawyer and civil rights advocate, Pauli Murray, who testified for the ERA at a 1970